GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3070
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2014
JUTE INDUSTRY
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam is one of the major raw jute producers in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is any mechanism to ensure that jute farmers get the maximum prices of their jute production;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether AIDC (Assam Industrial Development Corporation) has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a Jute Diversified Products industrial park in Assam for better utilisation of unutilised/surplus raw jute;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(f) whether the Government has any proposal to develop/upgrade the jute industry in Assam keeping in view the record production of jute and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): Production of Raw Jute in Assam accounts for about 7.2% of the total raw jute produced in the country.

(b) & (c): Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute is fixed by the Government of India every year to protect the interest of farmers. While formulating the agricultural price policy, Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) takes into account various factors such as cost of production, overall demand/supply situation, domestic and international prices and effect of minimum support price on general price level. The Jute Corporation of India (JCI), a Central Public Sector Enterprises under the Ministry of Textiles undertakes support price operations for raw jute from farmers to ensure that jute growers do not suffer by distress sale and whatever quantity or quality of raw jute is offered by them is purchased at MSP by 171 Departmental Purchase Centers (including 26 centres in Assam) and in association with the State Co-operatives located in different jute growing areas.

(d) & (e): Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) had submitted a proposal for setting up of a Jute Diversified Products Industrial Park in Assam under the Scheme for setting up Jute Parks for the Diversified sector underJute Technology Mission (JTM).The proposal was considered by the Project Management Committee and requested AIDC to initiate the preparatory activities, as required under JTM, subject to the condition of in-principle approval of the Empowered Committee. No development in this regard was, however, communicated by AIDC thereafter. However, AIDC was further advised to forward a fresh proposal for setting up of a Jute Park at Dhing to the office of the Textile Commissioner, Govt. of India under Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) Scheme for consideration. No such proposal has been received from AIDC.

(f): Government of India has taken various steps to develop/upgrade the jute industry in the country including Assam. Some of these steps are as under:-

i) Under the Technology Upgradation Funds Scheme (TUFS), interest reimbursement is given to jute mills for acquiring new machineries.

ii) 20% capital subsidy is given by National Jute Board to jute mills for acquiring new machineries.

iii) Facilitate participation in the export promotion fairs for promotion of jute diversified products. Besides, marketing assistance extended to the exporters for participating in different promotional events of the National Jute Board under Fast Track Export Market Development Scheme.

iv) National Jute Board organises Capacity Development & Marketing Training Programme for Jute Entrepreneurs and explores new market avenues for boosting export of jute goods with implementation of export promotion strategy.